



Memorandum

To: *Stephanie Vaughn (USEPA)*
Elizabeth Buckrucker (USACE)

From: *Sharon Budney (CDM Smith)*
George Molnar (CDM Smith)

Date: *September 24, 2012*

Re: *Status Report (August 2012)*
CPG Oversight of Chemical Water Column Monitoring
Lower Passaic River Restoration Project

On behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Kansas City District, CDM Federal Programs Corporation (CDM Smith) is providing oversight of the Cooperating Parties Group (CPG) remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) field activities associated with chemical water column monitoring (CWCM), and the collection of chemical data in the Lower Passaic River (LPR).

CDM Smith oversight activities were conducted August 28, 29, and 30, 2012. Oversight included observations of the collection of samples in the LPR and tributaries in support of the Low Flow CWCM study. In addition, CDM Smith also collected split samples at select locations. All activities were conducted in accordance with the CPG *Quality Assurance Project Plan/Field Sampling Plan Addendum (QAPP/FSP)*, *Remedial Investigation Water Column Monitoring/Small Volume Chemical Data Collection*, Revision 2, August 2011.

Photographs of field activities are in Attachment 1. Copies of the logbook notes are in Attachment 2. Copies of the chain of custody records are in Attachment 3.

General Summary

Oversight consisted of observations of in-river and field facility activities conducted by CPG contractors AECOM. Ocean Surveys Incorporated (OSI) provided vessel and sampling support.

All sample locations were verified by oversight staff using the map provided in CPG's QAPP/FSP. Review of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) gauging station at Dundee Dam indicated that maximum flows approached 545 cubic feet per second (cfs) due to a brief, but heavy rainfall that occurred in early morning on the first day of sampling, August 28. Flow rates below 400 cfs are required as per the QAPP in order for this to be considered a low-flow event. However, sampling activities proceeded after consultation with the EPA since the tributaries were not likely to be impacted by the slightly higher flow rate which was past peak and falling rapidly. In addition, the sampling schedule slightly changed due to the increased flow rate. Initially, sampling on Wednesday was scheduled to occur at RM 6.7, 10.2,

and Tidal 1. Due to the increased flow rate, sampling was moved further downstream to RM 0, 1.4, and above Dundee Dam on Wednesday to allow flows to decrease. The remaining locations RM 10.2, Tidal 1, and Tidal 2 were sampled on Thursday. Ultimately, there were no negative impacts to the project objectives from the temporary increase in flows (Nonconformance Report NC-120828-1).

Per AECOMs QAPP, if river flow velocities are greater than ($>$) 250 cfs at Dundee Dam, samples would be collected at river mile (RM) 10.2 instead of 13.5. In addition, if flow at the dam is less than ($<$) 1,000 cfs, samples would be collected at locations identified as Tidal 1 and Tidal 2 based on the location of the salt wedge instead of RMs 4.2 and 6.7 if flows were $>$ 1000 cfs.

In summary, the following locations were sampled during this event:

- Dundee Dam
- RM 0
- RM 1.4
- RM 10.2
- Saddle River
- Second River
- Third River
- Tidal 1 which consisted of RMs 4.5, 6.75 (sampled twice), and 9.0
- Tidal 2 which consisted of RMs 2.95, 3.58 (sampled twice), and 4.2

Upon arrival at each RM location, CPG lowered a YSI water quality instrument to the bottom of the riverbed and then raised it while simultaneously collecting water quality data in real time. Attached to the instrument was sampling tubing attached to a remote pump located on the sampling vessel. After a full "cast", the instrument was lowered to approximately 3 feet above river bottom, and the pump was activated allowing the tubing to purge for a few minutes followed by sample collection. Once all samples were collected at the lower depth, the instrument was raised to approximately 3 feet below river surface, the tubing was allowed to purge and another sample set was collected. After the top sample was collected, a final "cast" was conducted to record real-time water quality measurements.

A similar approach was used above Dundee Dam and at the tributaries; however, samples were only collected from a single depth, approximately midway in the water column. The YSI and sampling tubing were deployed either off a bridge such as at Saddle River, or crews waded in such as at the Second and Third Rivers. Sampling above Dundee Dam was conducted from a boat.

For this sampling event, CDM Smith accepted split samples from the following locations:

- Third River (non-tidal)
- RM 10.2 (during low slack tide)
- RM 1.4 (during maximum flood tide)
- RM 0 (during low slack tide)

Throughout each day, samples were collected and shuttled back to the CPG facility for processing and packing. Oversight of activities at the CPG field facility conducted between August 28 through August 30 indicated a relatively organized system of sample logging, labeling, chain of custody generation, and packing given the large volume of samples and bottleware involved. All sampling packing activities were conducted in accordance with AECOM's QAPP.

Summary of Daily Activities

The following is a summary of daily activities observed during CDM Smith's oversight of CWCM activities:

Second River and Third River (August 28, 2012)

CDM Smith oversight staff observed the collection of surface water at Second and Third Rivers. Oversight staff collected split samples at the Third River location. Split samples and corresponding CPG samples are presented in Table 1. Copies of CDM Smith's signed chain of custodies can be found in Attachment 3.

RMs 0 and 1.4 (August 29, 2012)

CDM Smith oversight staff observed boat-based sample collection at RM's 0 and 1.4. Per AECOM's QAPP, samples were collected four times over the period of one tidal cycle beginning with low slack tide and ending with maximum ebb tide. Oversight crews observed one sampling event at each of the above mentioned RMs starting at RM 0 (low slack tide) followed by RM 1.4 (maximum flood tide). CDM Smith oversight staff collected split samples at RMs 0 and 1.4. Both CDM Smith's split samples and corresponding CPG samples are presented in Table 1. Copies of CDM Smith's signed chain of custodies can be found in Attachment 3.

RMs 10.2 and Tidal 2 (August 30, 2012)

CDM Smith oversight staff observed boat-based sample collection at RM 10.2 and Tidal 2 at RM 3.58. Per AECOM's QAPP, samples were collected four times over the period of one tidal cycle beginning with low slack tide and ending with maximum ebb tide. The oversight crew observed one sampling event at each of the above mentioned RMs starting at RM 10.2 (low slack tide) followed by Tidal 2 (maximum flood tide). CDM Smith oversight staff collected split samples from RM 10.2. Both CDM Smith's split samples and corresponding CPG samples are presented in Table 1. Copies of CDM Smith's signed chains of custodies can be found in Attachment 3.

QAPP Compliance

With the exception of sampling on Tuesday when flows at Dundee Dam were above 400 cfs, all field activities were conducted in accordance with QAPP procedures. AECOM in consultation with EPA proceeded with the program starting with the tributaries since flows were past peak during tributary sample collection and falling rapidly. Flows decreased to below 400 cfs later that evening.

Table 1
Cooperating Parties Group and CDM-Smith Split Sample Identification
August 2012 Low Flow Chemical Water Column Monitoring Oversight
Lower Passaic River Restoration Project
Lower Passaic River, New Jersey

Location	CPG Sample ID	CDM Split Sample ID	QC Samples	Tide Event	Collection Date	Analysis
Third River	12G-CE05-T3R1-AS	12G-CE05-T3R1-AS-C	MS/MSD **	NA	8/28/2012	PAH/Alkyl PAHs, pesticides, PCB congeners, PCDD/PCDF, metals plus Ti (total and dissolved), mercury (total and dissolved), methyl mercury (total and dissolved), hexavalent chromium (dissolved), TOC, DOC, POC, SSC, TDS
RM 0	12G-CE01-T000-AS	12G-CE01-T000-AS-C		low slack	8/29/2012	
RM 0	12G-CE01-T000-BS	12G-CE01-T000-BS-C		low slack	8/29/2012	
RM 1.4	12G-CE02-T014-BS	12D-CE02-T014-BS-C		maximum flood	8/29/2012	
RM 10.2	12G-CE01-T102-BS	12G-CE01-T102-BS-C		low slack	8/30/2012	
RM 10.2	12G-CE01-T102-BS	12G-CE01-T102-BS-CX	Duplicate *	low slack	8/30/2012	

CPG - Cooperating Parties Group

DOC - dissolved organic carbon

ID - identification

MS/MSD - matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate

NA - not applicable; tributaries were not sampled over the course of a full tidal cycle

PAH - polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon

PCB - polychlorinated biphenyl

PCDD/PCDF - polychlorinated dibenzodioxins/polychlorinated dibenzofurans

POC - particulate organic carbon

QC - quality control

SSC- suspended solids concentration

TDS - total dissolved solids

Ti - titanium

TOC - total organic carbon

* - field duplicate sample of CDM split sample 12G-CE01-T102-BS-C

** - MS/MSD only for PAH/Alkyl PAHs, total and dissolved mercury and methyl mercury, dissolved hexavalent chromium, TOC, POC and DOC

Attachment 1
Photographs of Field Activities



Photo 1 - Deploying water quality meter at Second River

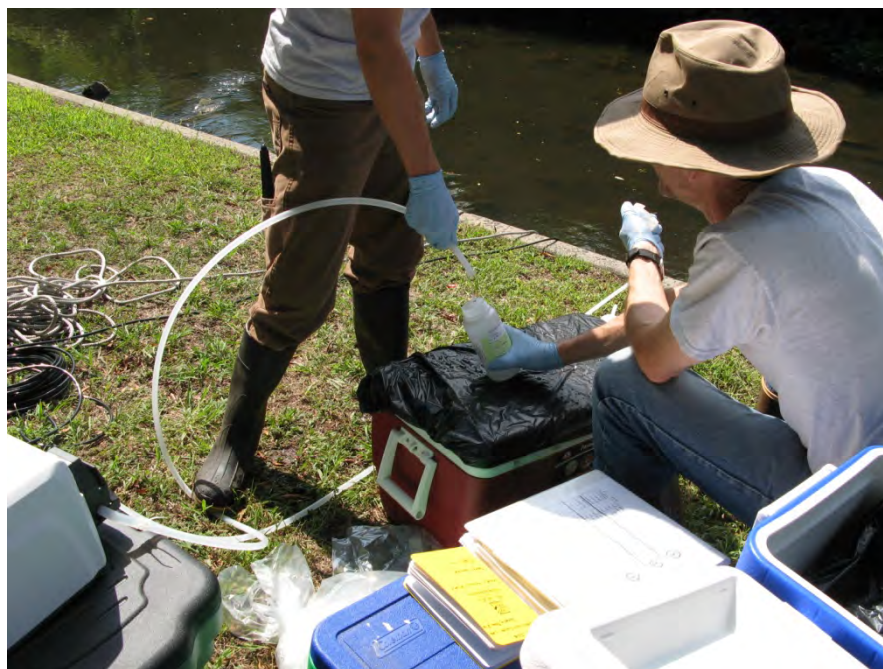


Photo 2 - Sample collection at Second River



Photo 3 - Sample location Third River



Photo 4 - Setting up sampling equipment at Third River



Photo 5 - CDM Smith split sample collection at RM 0 using clean hands/dirty hands method



Photo 6 - Sample collection at RM 1.4



Photo 7 - Sample collection at RM 10.2



Photo 8 - Lowering water quality meter to conduct water column profile at Tidal 2 (RM 3.58)



Photo 9 - Sample location Tidal 2 (RM 3.58)



Photo 10 - Sample collection at Tidal 2 (RM 3.58)



Photo 11 - Sample processing at CPG Facility



Photo 12 - Sample packaging at CPG facility

Attachment 2

Copies of Oversight Field Logbook Notes

Passaic River Date 8-28-12

EPA

J. Rakowski

POE: Modified Level
 weather: 70° Fahrenheit
 Personnel: JR, SO (CDM-Smith)
 Objective: Collection of split sample
 at third river, oversight
 of sampling at second
 river.

0730 JR arrives on site.
 0745 JR and SO complete
 labeling today's bottleware.
 0755 Ryan Marthey (AECOM)
 briefs CDM-Smith on
 today's schedule. The
 cubic feet per second is
 at 407 currently
 which is above the
 low flow 400 marker.
 They will proceed with
 this event despite the
 river level.
 0810 SO calls GM to
 inform him of river
 levels.
 0830 RM (AECOM) informs
 JR 8-28-12

Passaic River Date 8-28-12¹²⁷

EPA

J. Rakowski

JR that OSI will
 arrive at 10am with pumps.
 1030 JR arrives at second
 river. AECOM sample id
 will be 12G-CE05-T2R1-AS
 * 1058 12G-CE05-T2R1-AS
 Sample time
 1155 Sample stop time
 120 AECOM, OSI, and CDM-
 Smith depart site.

J. R.

8-28-12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/28/12 ⁷⁵

Project / Client CWCM / USACE

07:50 → SO arrives on
Site of CPG Facility.

Weather → Cloudy ~ 80°F

PPE → Level D Modifier

* Sean O'Hare (SO) & Jeff
Ratowski (JR) review
bottleware to make sure
all is accounted for. Samples
will be collected at the
3rd River 12G-CE05-T3R1-
AS-C

08:20 → Ryan McCarthy
(RC) informs CDM Smith
that schedule will be del-
ayed until QSI arrives to
help out.

10:47 → Arrive at Third
River and begin setting
up

10:53 → Ryan McCarthy
(RM) wades out into
middle of Third River
and will place VSI app-
roximately half way

862 8/28/12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/28/10
 Project / Client CWCM - USACE

down into water column
 11:00 → Begin Pumping at
 Third River.
 11:07 → Collect sample at
 location 12G-GEOS-T3R1-
 AS-C. CDM^{Smith} collects split
 samples ~ 25 bottles.
 Salinity → .01 PPT
 Analyses include the following:
 Mercury (Total)
 Mercury (Dissolved)
 Methyl Mercury (Total)
 Methyl Mercury (Dissolved)
 TAL Metals & Ti (Total)
 TAL Metals & Ti (Dissolved)
 Hexavalent Chromium
 TOC
 POC/DOC
 PAH
 Pesticides
 PCBs
 PCDD/PCDF
 SSC/TDS
 * Pump was ~ 1.51 - 1.71
 SC 8/28/12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/28/10⁷⁷
 Project / Client CWCM - USACE

below top of water surface.
 12:10 → Complete collection
 of
 12:25 depart site
 Sample Summary
 * CDM Smith collected
 split sample 12G-GEOS-
 T3R1-AS-C (MS/MSD)

SC

8/28/12

PRE! Modified Level D
 weather: 80° Greenheight
 Personnel: JR, SO (CDM-Smith)
 Objective: Split sample collection
 and over sight

1200 JR and SO arrive
 at CPG dock, CDM
 Smith is awaiting
 Miller boat in order
 to head to River mile

1220 Sandy Miller picks up
 CDM Smith at CPG
 facility.

1300 Arrive at River mile

1310 OSI crew is currently
 collecting water profile.

1315 14.2' to river bottom at
 RMO, Pump depth is
 at 11.1'

*1326 12G-CE01-T000-B5-C
 Sample time Line was purged before
 sampling. JR 8-29-12
 d.e. 8-29-12

1400 Sampling continues
 the current turbidity is
 9ppm. The NTU has
 ranged from 8-9.

1420 Sampling is complete
 CDM-Smith Switch from Sandy

Miller to Erin Miller

1425 Erin Miller ties up
 to OSI boat.

1430 AECOM Starts purging
 out line.

*1434 12G-CE01-T000-AS-C
 Sample time

N 5 683232.9'

R 5 597428.69'

1520 samples collected -
 Erin Miller heads to RM

1.4

1530 Depart to RM 1.4

1535 Steve Barker of

OSI informs SO that
 Miller's vessel will not be
 able to tie off to OSI
 vessel. SO will jump on

Steve Barker 8/29/12

board and collect split
samples from 12G-CE01-
T014-BS-C

16:15 → OSI conducts water
profile column. Total water
depth is 17.0'. VSI/pump
is placed ~ 3' above river
bottom at 14.0'.

16:22 → Begin purging

16:25 → Collected sample

12G-CE01-T014-BS-C

SV → 691196

ES → 597984

17:02 → Complete sample
collection at 12G-CE01-
T014-BS-C

Salinity → 19 PPT

Pump
Depth / → 14.25'

17:00 → Begin purging at
top.

17:20 Miller picks up CDM-
Smith.

17:50 CDM-Smith arrives at
CPG facility and departs,
J.R. 8277

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8-30-12Project / Client CWCM-USACEJ. R. Rasmussen

PPE: Modified Level D

Weather: 80° Fahrenheit

Personnel: JR, SO (CDM-Smith)

AECOM, OSI, Miller's

Objective: Split 12G-AE01-T62

BS-C and duplicate - oversee tidal location.

1330 JR and SO meet Miller's at CPG boat ramp.

1340 depart CPG ramp to head to RM 10.2.

14.05 → Arrive at station RM 10.2. SO hops onto OSI vessel while Kevin of OSI hops onto Miller's Launch to head back to CPG facility so OSI can bring trailer to nearby boat yard.

Total Depth → 12.2'

OSI will raise pump to ~9.2' to start pumping. OSI conducts a profile of the water column prior to purging cut lines.

SO & JR 8/30/12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/30/12Project / Client CWCM-USACE

14:20 → Begin purging cut lines for three minutes prior to collecting sample 12G-CE01-T102-BS

W → 719741.74'

E → 592153.59'

15:30 → Miller's boat captain Joe McCarthy at Miller arrives back at location RM 10.2

and transfers samples onto Miller's vessel. CDM Smith proceeds back up river to dock.

15:50 → Drop off samples to CPG dock. JR hops off Miller's vessel and will depart site en route to CDM Smith warehouse in Edison, New Jersey to finish processing samples.

15:55 → Head back down to Tidal 2 location to oversee second round or cycle of sampling.

16:45 → Arrive at Tidal 2

SO - 8/30/12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/30/12
 Project / Client CWCM - USACE

which is approximately at RM 3.58 and tie up to OSI vessel. SO will oversee both the bottom and top intervals collected.

17:00 → OSI casts profile of water column. The total depth is 16.7'. The pump will be raised to ~13.7' to collect the

sample 12G-CE02-TTR2-BS

17:11 → Begin Purging lines for approximately 3 minutes prior to sample collection.

17:14 → Begin collecting sample 12G-CE02-TTR2-BS

Tidal 2 Sample locations include: RM's 2.95, RM 3.58, RM 4.5, and RM 3.58

* This tidal 2 location coordinates are:

N → 693728

E → 590981

SO 2 8/30/12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/30/12
 Project / Client CWCM - USACE

17:35 → AECOM^{completed} collection of bottom sample

17:37 → OSI casts VSI/tubing to ~ 3' below water surface.

17:42 → Begin purging lines for 3 minutes prior to collecting sample.

17:45 → Collected sample

12G-CE02-TTR2-AS(AT) which is a duplicate sample for AECOM TTR1 → RM 4.5, RM 6-75, RM 9.0, & RM 6-75

18:36 → Finish collection of sample 12G-CE02-TTR2-AS(AT)

18:36 → Remove VSI out of water and detach tubing. Proceed to haul VSI and

18:39 → Drop VSI to river bottom and sit.

18:44 → Remove VSI upon completion of water column profile.

Location Lower Passaic River Date 8/30/12
Project / Client CWCM - USACE

18:45 → SO advises Miller
Launch captain Jge
McCarthy to proceed to
Passaic Yacht Club.

19:10 → SO signs off
on paperwork and
departs Passaic Yacht Club
en route home.

Sample Summary

CDM collected split
samples at RM 10.2:

12G-CE01-T102-BS-C

12G-CE01-T102-BS-CA (Field

Duplicate)

~~2/30/12~~

Attachment 3
Copies of Signed Chain of Custodies

Lab Phone: 8883730881

[illegible]

Sample(s) to be used for Lab QC: 12G-CE05-T3R1-AS-C	Shipment for Case Complete? N
	Samples Transferred From Chain of Custody #
Analysis Key: PCB_C=PCBs (CONGENERs), Extra=Extra bottle, PAH/AI PAH=PAH/Alkyl PAH, Pesticides=Pesticides, PCDD PCDF=PCDD PCDF	

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Lab Phone: 8883730881

[illegible]

Special Instructions:	Shipment for Case Complete? N
	Samples Transferred From Chain of Custody #
Analysis Key: PCB_C=PCBs (CONGENERES), Extra=Extra bottle, PAH/AI PAH=PAH/Alkyl PAH, Pesticides=Pesticides, PCDD PCDF=PCDD PCDF	

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

CarrierName:

CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD

Case Complete: False

No: 2-082412-134019-0031

Lab Address: 250 W. 84th Drive

Lab Phone: 2197698378

Special Instructions:	SAMPLES TRANSFERRED FROM
	CHAIN OF CUSTODY #

[illegible]

[illegible]

Lab Phone: 8883730881

[illegible]

Special Instructions:	Shipment for Case Complete? N
	Samples Transferred From Chain of Custody #
Analysis Key: PCB_C=PCBs (CONGENERES), Extra=Extra bottle, PAH/AI PAH=PAH/Alkyl PAH, Pesticides=Pesticides, PCDD PCDF=PCDD PCDF	

[illegible]

[illegible]

USEPA

DateShipped: 8/30/2012

CarrierName:

AirbillNo: 798820018770

CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD

Passaic - F2L

Case Complete: False

Cooler #:

No: 2-082412-134058-0032

Lab: Microbac Laboratories, Inc.

Lab Address: 250 W. 84th Drive

Lab Phone: 2197698378

[illegible]

Special Instructions:	SAMPLES TRANSFERRED FROM
	CHAIN OF CUSTODY #

[illegible]

[illegible]